

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims replaces all prior versions of the claims in the application.

1. (Original) An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:
 - a) a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1,
 - b) a naturally occurring polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence at least 90% identical to an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1,
 - c) a biologically active fragment of a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, and
 - d) an immunogenic fragment of a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.
2. (Original) An isolated polypeptide of claim 1, having a sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.
- 3-10. (Cancelled)
11. (Withdrawn) An isolated antibody which specifically binds to a polypeptide of claim 1.
12. (Withdrawn) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of:
 - a) a polynucleotide comprising a polynucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2,
 - b) a naturally occurring polynucleotide comprising a polynucleotide sequence at least 90% identical to a polynucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2,
 - c) a polynucleotide having a sequence complementary to a polynucleotide of a),
 - d) a polynucleotide having a sequence complementary to a polynucleotide of b) and
 - e) an RNA equivalent of a)-d).

13. (Withdrawn) An isolated polynucleotide comprising at least 60 contiguous nucleotides of a polynucleotide of claim 12.

14-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Withdrawn) A method for detecting a target polynucleotide in a sample, said target polynucleotide having a sequence of a polynucleotide of claim 12, the method comprising:

- a) amplifying said target polynucleotide or fragment thereof using polymerase chain reaction amplification, and
- b) detecting the presence or absence of said amplified target polynucleotide or fragment thereof, and, optionally, if present, the amount thereof.

17. (Withdrawn) A composition comprising a polypeptide of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

18. (Withdrawn) A composition of claim 17, wherein the polypeptide has an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

19. (Withdrawn) A method for treating a disease or condition associated with decreased expression of functional HREVP, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment the composition of claim 17.

20. (Withdrawn) A method for screening a compound for effectiveness as an agonist of a polypeptide of claim 1, the method comprising:

- a) exposing a sample comprising a polypeptide of claim 1 to a compound, and
- b) detecting agonist activity in the sample.

21. (Withdrawn) A composition comprising an agonist compound identified by a method of claim 20 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

22. (Withdrawn) A method for treating a disease or condition associated with decreased expression of functional HREVP, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment a composition of claim 21.

23. (Withdrawn) A method for screening a compound for effectiveness as an antagonist of a polypeptide of claim 1, the method comprising:

- a) exposing a sample comprising a polypeptide of claim 1 to a compound, and
- b) detecting antagonist activity in the sample.

24. (Withdrawn) A composition comprising an antagonist compound identified by a method of claim 23 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

25. (Withdrawn) A method for treating a disease or condition associated with overexpression of functional HREVP, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment a composition of claim 24.

26. (Withdrawn) A method of screening for a compound that specifically binds to the polypeptide of claim 1, the method comprising:

- a) combining the polypeptide of claim 1 with at least one test compound under suitable conditions, and
- b) detecting binding of the polypeptide of claim 1 to the test compound, thereby identifying a compound that specifically binds to the polypeptide of claim 1.

27. (Withdrawn) A method of screening for a compound that modulates the activity of the polypeptide of claim 1, said method comprising:

- a) combining the polypeptide of claim 1 with at least one test compound under conditions permissive for the activity of the polypeptide of claim 1,
- b) assessing the activity of the polypeptide of claim 1 in the presence of the test compound, and

- c) comparing the activity of the polypeptide of claim 1 in the presence of the test compound with the activity of the polypeptide of claim 1 in the absence of the test compound, wherein a change in the activity of the polypeptide of claim 1 in the presence of the test compound is indicative of a compound that modulates the activity of the polypeptide of claim 1.

28-29. (Cancelled)

30. (Withdrawn) A diagnostic test for a condition or disease associated with the expression of a polypeptide of claim 1 in a biological sample, the method comprising:

- a) combining the biological sample with an antibody that specifically binds to a polypeptide of claim 1, under conditions suitable for the antibody to bind the polypeptide and form an antibody-polypeptide complex, and
- b) detecting the complex, wherein the presence of the complex correlates with the presence of the polypeptide in the biological sample.

31. (Withdrawn) The antibody of claim 11, wherein the antibody is:

- a) a chimeric antibody,
- b) a single chain antibody,
- c) a Fab fragment,
- d) a F(ab')₂ fragment, or
- e) a humanized antibody.

32-35. (Cancelled)

36. (Withdrawn) A method of preparing a polyclonal antibody which specifically binds to a polypeptide of claim 2, the method comprising:

- a) immunizing an animal with a polypeptide, under conditions to elicit an antibody response,
- b) isolating antibodies from said animal, and

- c) screening the isolated antibodies with the polypeptide, thereby identifying a polyclonal antibody which binds specifically to a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

37-38. (Cancelled)

39. (Withdrawn) A method of making a monoclonal antibody which specifically binds to a polypeptide of claim 2, the method comprising:

- a) immunizing an animal with a polypeptide under conditions to elicit an antibody response,
- b) isolating antibody producing cells from the animal,
- c) fusing the antibody producing cells with immortalized cells to form monoclonal antibody-producing hybridoma cells,
- d) culturing the hybridoma cells, and
- e) isolating from the culture monoclonal antibody which binds specifically to a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

40-43. (Cancelled)

44. (Withdrawn) A method of detecting a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 in a sample, the method comprising:

- a) incubating the antibody which specifically binds to a polypeptide of claim 2 with a sample under conditions to allow specific binding of the antibody and the polypeptide, and
- b) detecting specific binding, wherein specific binding indicates the presence of a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 in the sample.

45. (Withdrawn) A method of purifying a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 from a sample, the method comprising:

- a) incubating the antibody which specifically binds to a polypeptide of claim 2 with a sample under conditions to allow specific binding of the antibody and the polypeptide, and
- b) separating the antibody from the sample and obtaining the purified polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

46-55. (Cancelled)